

Lateral Violence In Nursing Project

Upstate Area Health Education Center (AHEC) has, for the second year in a row, received a three-year grant from the Nursing Education, Practice and Retention (NEPR) Program of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. Last year's award funded the SC Cross Cultural Healthcare Project, which includes intensive, week-long, regional nursing institutes held in the Fall and annual Spring conferences showcasing nurse-led research. The newest 2007 NEPR grant will allow Upstate AHEC to address a significant but rarely acknowledged problem within the nursing profession: lateral violence.

The phenomenon of lateral violence in nursing is costly and potentially devastating. It has been

linked to high nursing turnover, increased illness and absenteeism, decreased productivity, and lower quality of patient care. Defined as behavior consciously or unconsciously used to control, undermine, or devalue an individual or group, lateral violence is often associated with oppressed peoples and situations involving unequal power relations. In nursing, lateral violence generally takes the form of psychological harassment evidenced by verbal abuse, intimidation, exclusion, unfair assignments, denial of access to opportunities, and withholding of information. While generally ascribed to individuals, lateral violence can also be a symptom of unhealthy organizational dynamics.

Fortunately, recent research indicates that lateral violence can be significantly reduced or eliminated when the behavior is recognized, acknowledged, and appropriately and consistently addressed

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Lowcountry AHEC Names The United States Naval Hospital Site of the Year

By Lisa Schreiber and Emily Warren, HPS Coordinators, Lowcountry AHEC

The United States Naval Hospital, based in Beaufort, South Carolina has been selected as the Lowcountry Area Health Education Center Clinical Teaching Site of the Year for 2007. The site is selected based on the following criteria: being an active interdisciplinary clinical teaching site, positive feedback on evaluations completed by students, and letters of nomination from coordinators and students.

During 2006, Lowcountry AHEC placed over 20 students at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Beaufort. Many people are involved in having students onboard and the base command is dedicated to making sure the students have the best possible rotation. The staff and preceptors have always worked hard to provide a quality learning experience for the students who have the opportunity to work/learn in a safe, professional, caring and student/academic friendly environment.

The student evaluations of the site/preceptor were excellent evaluations of all those at The U.S. Naval Hospital, Beaufort. As one student said, "I had the opportunity to see numerous patients and participate in procedures with staff members by my side helping and encouraging me along the way."



Photo from left to right: Diane Kennedy and Emily Warren, Lowcountry Area Health Education Center; CAPT Elaine Wagner and LT Holly M. Bonds, U.S. Naval Hospital in Beaufort

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at both the organizational and individual level. Consequently, the NEPR-funded Upstate AHEC Lateral Violence in Nursing Project will offer nurses at every level – from hospital-based Chief Nursing Officers and University Deans to students and newly licensed RNs -- the knowledge and skills necessary to identify the problem and reduce both its frequency and harmful effects.

Specific project components include: 1) Organizational Self-Surveys designed to assist nursing leaders in assessing the current institutional climate; 2) Nursing Leadership Summits that provide a forum in which Chief Nursing Officers and nursing school Deans and Directors can explore best practices for addressing lateral violence within their facilities; 3) Organizational Consulting to assist nursing leaders in planning, implementing, and evaluating lateral violence interventions within their institutions; 4) Skill Building Workshops

tailored to meet the unique needs of five distinct groups: newly licensed nurses, staff nurses, nurse managers, senior nursing students, and nursing school faculty; and 5) Train-the-Trainer Classes designed to create a cadre of knowledgeable, school and organization-based instructors to promote program self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Upstate AHEC primarily serves the counties of Abbeville, Anderson, Edgefield, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, and Spartanburg. Dianne Jacobs, MSN, RN, previously an Upstate AHEC Continuing Education Consultant, will be the Director for the Upstate Lateral Violence in Nursing Project. Susan Kyzer, MSN, RN, will be the Project Training Coordinator. Ms. Kyzer also manages the SC Cross Cultural Healthcare Project. Together, Ms. Jacobs and Ms. Kyzer staff the newly formed Upstate AHEC Nursing Projects Team. For additional information, contact Upstate AHEC at 864-349-1160.

South Carolina AHEC Rural Physician Incentive Grant Recipient Still Serving

In 1989, the Legislature of South Carolina provided funding to the South Carolina AHEC for the Rural Physician Incentive Grant Program to encourage primary care physicians to establish practices in underserved areas of the state. In January of 1997, Dr. William Glenn received a South Carolina AHEC Rural Physician Program Incentive Grant and was recruited from California by Dr. Michael Watson to join the Michael Watson Rural Health Clinic in Bamberg, SC. Dr. Glenn has been serving the citizens of Bamberg and surrounding areas with primary care and obstetrical services since that time

Dr. Glenn used the funds he received from the Incentive Grant to purchase an ultrasound machine so he and the midwives could do screening ultrasounds in the office. He also bought a colposcope in order to do colposcopies on women without insurance who would not otherwise be able to afford this service. This has helped his practice prevent cancer of the cervix through early detection.

In January of 2000, Dr. Glenn purchased the clinic from Dr. Watson, who retired after over 45 years in practice. Dr. Glenn and his staff provide the only obstetrical services in Bamberg. Dr. Glenn is fluent in Spanish and is affiliated with the Migrant Health Program. Because of his ability to speak Spanish, Dr. Glenn has many Hispanic clients in the area because he can communicate with them and clearly understand their healthcare needs.

In August 2006, Dr. Glenn also purchased Dr. Thomas' practice in Denmark, SC. Dr. Thomas needed help keeping the only private physician office in Denmark open. Dr. Glenn plans to staff this office with a Nurse Practitioner and provide additional access to medical care for the citizens of Denmark.

Dr. Glenn has made Bamberg his home and resides there with his wife, Lynn, and their three children, Elizabeth, Paul and Sarah.

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium

Executive Director
David R. Garr, MD

South Carolina AHEConnects Editor
Ragan DuBose-Morris, MA

Spring Policy Days in Washington, DC Gives Educator New Perspective

On April 23-26, I represented Upstate AHEC at the NAO Leadership Conference and Spring Policy Days in Washington, DC. This Conference provides AHEC representatives from across the nation with information about congressional funding opportunities and challenges.

I was very excited when asked by Candace Luciano, Center Director for Upstate AHEC, to attend mainly because I love to travel and experience new things. Once Ms. Luciano started sending me information about the conference, I knew this was going to be a great opportunity to get trained in advocacy. I planned to go through the training and then sit back and watch the others in action while we visited each of the South Carolina Congressional Delegates offices. I had never done anything like this before and I definitely didn't feel qualified to talk to senators and representatives.

Dr. David Garr, Executive Director for South Carolina AHEC, had other things in mind though. He hoped I would be willing to talk about what AHEC has meant to my students enrolled in the Health Professions Magnet Program at Carolina High School and Academy in Greenville, SC. I started brainstorming things to mention. I knew time was short in these meetings, about 15 minutes each, and I needed to say things concisely and clearly. I could talk all day about our Magnet Program and the partnership we have had with AHEC for 10 plus years.

AHEC has been a wonderful asset to my program and the students participating in it. I told the Congressmen and their staffs about the provision of speakers and tours by AHEC which made our students' classroom learning real. I mentioned the Health Careers Academy that Selena Henderson from Upstate AHEC piloted with our 9th graders this year, which gave her the chance to develop relationships and provide activities over and above what we are able to provide through our Health Professions Academy. These were wonderful enrichment experiences for our students. I also mentioned the two summer programs I had students participating in and how excited they were about attending the Nursing Careers Academy held at the Medical University of South Carolina and the Summer Institute that was held at the Governor's School for Math and Science.

Washington, DC is a very exciting place. You cannot help but get caught up in the energy of Capitol Hill. It was fascinating to get a peek into the ins and outs of a day in the life of our Senators and Representatives. We met with each of the eight offices in one day; sometimes with the actual senator or representative and sometimes with one of his aides. Whew – there was lots of walking, talking and 'selling' AHEC. I was amazed at the number of organizations that

were in DC doing the same thing and I was not aware that all this goes on.

Dr. Garr knew some of the people we spoke with but several were new and we were glad to have the chance to educate them about AHEC and why it's important to continue financial support. I think what I had to say had an impact on our legislators. I was able to provide a grass-roots

perspective on what the money and programs are doing on a day to day basis. I could make AHEC 'real' to them. It was not just "this is my job so I support the program" - it was "this is what this program is doing for the people of your state".

I realized the importance of these visits right away and can see why it is very important to keep AHEC in the legislators' minds and on their agendas, so to speak. We must have them as an advocate and it's up to us to convince them why. They even influence their peers from other states in regards to votes.

One highlight of my visit to "The Hill", was being able to go over to the Capitol, via the underground transportation reserved for VIPs, and meet our own Congressman, Jim Clyburn. He was just coming off the House floor, where he serves as Majority Whip, and his aide took us over to meet him. How cool is that??!!

- Lora Finch is the Magnet Program Coordinator at Carolina High School & Academy in Greenville, SC and a partner in Upstate AHEC's effort to interest young people in health careers.



Diane Kennedy, Lora Finch, Cheri Plyler and Gail Weaver make the rounds during the Annual NAO Spring Policy Days.

Abercrombie to Lead Alumni Association

On May 4, 2007, Dr. Stoney Abercrombie, Director of Medical Education and Family Medicine Residency Program Director at AnMed Health Center, was installed as President of the MUSC College of Medicine Alumni Association. The ceremony took place during the MUSC Alumni Awards Luncheon at the South Carolina Medical Association Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, SC.

As President of the Association, Dr. Abercrombie will serve as a liaison to all his colleagues who are MUSC alumni. The Association has approximately 5700 members. This distinguished honor was bestowed upon Dr. Abercrombie by the Alumni Board and staff of the Alumni Affairs Office.

South Carolina AHEC congratulates Dr. Abercrombie!



Dr. Sam Stone (Past President) passes Dr. Stoney Abercrombie the gavel as the new President of the MUSC College of Medicine Alumni Association. Dr. Abercrombie served as the Executive Director for the South Carolina AHEC from 2000-2002.

Alumni Recognized for Leadership, Support

The MUSC College of Medicine Alumni Association presented their 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Awards to Jerry Reves, M.D., vice president for Medical Affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, and Donald R. Johnson, II, M.D., immediate past chairman of the MUSC Board of Trustees. The awards were presented at the South Carolina Medical Association annual meeting, May 4-6, in Hilton Head.

Each year, the awards are presented to COM graduates whose personal lives, professional achievements and community service are recognized as reflecting the highest traditions of MUSC. Both men have demonstrated great pride and loyalty to MUSC through their leadership and contributions to the institution and the medical profession.

A native of Charleston, Reves is a 1969 COM graduate. After completing his anesthesiology residency at the University of

Alabama at Birmingham, he served briefly in the U.S. Navy. In 1984, he joined the faculty at Duke University Medical Center and was named director of the Duke Heart Center in 1987. He returned to MUSC in 2001 to assume leadership as dean of COM.

Another Charleston native, Johnson is a 1984 COM graduate and was a former chief orthopedic surgery resident. Currently a member of the clinical faculty at MUSC's Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Johnson has served on MUSC's Board of Trustees since 1994, and is immediate past chairman. He is the former medical director of the Department of Rehabilitative Services, Bon Secours-St. Francis Hospital, and past president of the South Carolina Orthopedic Association. He serves on the editorial boards of the Spine Section Journal of the Southern Orthopedic Association and Journal of Surgical Orthopaedic Advances.



Drs. Don Johnson, left, and Jerry Reves accept the 2007 COM Distinguished Alumnus awards May 4. Dr. Reves serves on the South Carolina AHEC Council.

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2nd Annual Ramage Award Presented to Samuel W. Smith, Jr., MD

The second annual Raymond C. Ramage, MD Award for Leadership in Humane Education was presented to Samuel W. Smith, Jr., M.D., of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Greenville Hospital System on June 21, 2007 at the Residency Awards Program.

The Ramage Award was established by South Carolina AHEC to recognize a deserving faculty member in a specialty other than Family Medicine. Dr. Raymond Ramage was an integral part of the formation of the South Carolina Consortium of Community Teaching Hospitals in 1970 and was a “founding father” of the South Carolina AHEC in 1972. From 1979 to 1982, he served as chairman of a task force on graduate medical education charged with developing and integrating South Carolina’s medical education schools and teaching hospitals. He also served as Governor Carroll Campbell’s appointee on the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education from 1988 to 1996.

“...the first lesson to learn regarding taking care of your patients is first to care for your patients.”

Dr. David Garr, Executive Director of the South Carolina AHEC and Professor and Associate Dean for Community Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina, presented the award to Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith’s letters of recommendation stated that he was deserving of this award and reflected that he truly exemplified all of the attributes of the Ramage Award: “Dr. Smith has always been

patient-centered. One memorable comment he made to me that I will always remember was ‘the first lesson to learn regarding taking care of your patients is first to care for your patients.’”

He exemplified these traits throughout his career. Dr. Smith has attended on medical teaching services and allowed residents to rotate with him for their hematology/oncology training. He is enthusiastic and passionate about teaching. His love of medicine, experience in patient care, and respect for his patients provide a splendid role model for students and residents. He has bestowed much knowledge over the years, teaching many house staff the scientific aspects of medicine as well as a good bedside manner.

He has volunteered numerous hours to teaching and taking care of the underserved citizens of Greenville County. After retiring from his private practice, he wanted to continue to care for his low income patients. Dr. Smith developed a Hepatitis-C clinic in conjunction with the New Horizons Family Health Center. Although, treatment for this disease is very expensive, he worked with pharmaceutical companies to provide the prescriptions at no cost for the uninsured.

Additional praise from his letters of recommendation include: “I can think of no one who possesses the attributes for this award better than Dr. Samuel W. Smith, Jr. It has been my privilege to work with Dr. Smith over many years and it is clear that he exemplifies the attributes espoused by the Ramage Award for Leadership in Humane Education.”

Congratulations to Dr. Smith on his achievement!



Dr. David Garr presents Dr. Samuel Smith with the Ramage Award for Leadership in Humane Education.

The South Carolina AHEC Residents' Annual Conference Recognizes Outstanding Research Projects

By Becky Seignious, Director of Recruitment & Retention for South Carolina AHEC

The South Carolina AHEC Residents' Annual Conference was held at Hickory Knob State Park in McCormick, SC on May 18-19. A total of 50 residents from the eight AHEC-affiliated Family Medicine Residency Training Programs attended the Conference along with their residency program directors and PharmD faculty.

On Friday morning, a Chief Residents' Seminar was held for physicians who will be chief residents during the 2007-08 academic year. The session was conducted by Franklin Medio, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education at MUSC. The agenda included workshops on "Being an Effective Chief Resident" and "Becoming an Effective Clinical Teacher". Chief Residents from each Family Medicine Residency Program attended the seminar.

On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, The Hickory Knob Symposium provided an opportunity for residents to present 10-minute scholarly

presentations. Presentations were categorized into basic research, case reports with clinical review and quality improvement projects.

Dr. Stoney Abercrombie, Director of Medical Education and Residency Director at Anderson Area Medical Center, was the moderator for the Symposium. The distinguished panel of judges for the Symposium were Otis Baughman, M.D., Director of Medical Education and Residency Director at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center; William Hueston, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at MUSC; and Sharm Steadman, Pharm.D., Professor, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at Palmetto Health.

An Awards Luncheon was held after the Hickory Knob Symposium and cash prizes (\$300 for first and \$150 for second) were presented to the following winners:



1st Place – Case Report with Clinical Review
Rajesh Davit, M.D. (Presented by Dr. Sharm Steadman)

Renal Infarction Presenting as Flank Pain in a Patient with Anti-Thrombin III Deficiency
Greenville Family Medicine Residency Program



2nd Place – Case Report with Clinical Review
Brian McCollough, M.D. (Presented by Dr. Otis Baughman)
Diagnosis and Management of Abdominal Pain in Pregnancy
Seneca Lakes Family Medicine Residency Program



1st Place – Quality Improvement
Morgan Arvidson, M.D. (Presented by Dr. William Hueston)
Is Diabetes Self-Management Education Desirable and Feasible in Primary Care?
MUSC/Trident Family Medicine Residency Program



2nd Place – Quality Improvement
Leah Jacobson, M.D.
(Presented by Dr. Stoney Abercrombie)
Assessing the Effectiveness of Diabetes Group Education
Medical University of South Carolina/Trident Family Medicine Residency Program



2nd Place – Basic Research
Daniel Lewis, M.D.
(Presented by Dr. William Hueston)
Screening for Sudden Cardiac Death in Athletes
Self Regional Healthcare Family Medicine Residency Program

1st Place – Basic Research
Joshua Hutchins, M.D. (Not Pictured)
Frequency of Antimicrobial Resistance Among Colonizing Group B Streptococcus Isolates in an Upstate South Carolina Community
Seneca Lakes Family Medicine Residency Program

This event was sponsored by the South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine Residency Training Program Directors.

For additional information, please contact Becky Seignious at (843)792-4439 or seignior@mus.edu.

Feeding Course Held for Long Term Care Volunteers

Feeding ourselves might be something we take for granted - most of us do it daily. But what is it like to have someone else feed you as an adult? What is it like to feed another adult?

On May 19, Low Country AHEC, in partnership with Bamberg County Hospital and Nursing Center, conducted a course to train volunteers and healthcare providers how to properly feed patients who are unable to do this for themselves. The program covered preparing the patient to eat, presenting the tray, feeding or assisting the patient with eating and reporting food and fluid intake. Nineteen participants including six junior volunteers, along with Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) and Resident Assistants took part in the course.

This Continuing Education program taught by Trish Deems, RN, MEd, gave long-term care providers an opportunity to pass along their years of patient-care experience to the Junior Volunteers at the Bamberg Nursing Center for the summer.

The experienced staff was partnered with Junior Volunteers in a feeding simulation. The students took away skills beyond what can be learned in a lecture alone. By practice feeding another person, they had



to exercise communication skills during the feeding process, learn to be aware of the proper bed position and make sure liquids were offered to facilitate swallowing. Additionally, students were taught the procedure for feeding patients with limited vision. They did this by using a clock as a guide (for example your potatoes are at six o'clock). The curriculum also prepared them to safely respond to a choking situation.

Everyone seemed to enjoy learning this important skill. One veteran CNA said, "I've been doing this for over 15 years, and I still learned something new today. It did my heart good to see these young folks so willing to learn about taking care of others."

2007 Conference for Students and Residents Held in Kansas City

Denise Corriher, Residency Coordinator, McLeod Family Medicine Residency Program

The American Academy of Family Physician's National Conference for Students and Residents was held August 1-4, 2007 in Kansas City. The Conference provided an opportunity for medical students and residents to meet and gather information from Family Medicine Residency Programs across the nation in one location while attending workshops and courses aimed at increasing their skills.

Attendees included 693 medical students and 285 residents. The eight South Carolina programs worked hard to share information about the opportunities their residency programs have to offer. The staff handed out an interactive CD developed by the South Carolina AHEC and the Family Medicine Program Directors Council. The CD is an introduction to the state and each Family Medicine Residency Program. In addition, the medical students and residents received custom USB data



drives. The majority of students who stopped by the booth were fourth year medical students and were considered to be high quality prospects.

The South Carolina AHEC Residency Programs were represented well at the AAFP Congress. When South Carolina residents were not on duty in the booth, they took advantage of workshops, clinics and procedural skills courses.

All the residency programs in South Carolina express their gratitude to Ms. Becky Seignious, Director of Recruitment and Retention Programs at South Carolina AHEC for organizing everything and making sure that the state was represented well. Special thanks to Ragan DuBose-Morris for the beautiful banner and table stands. Thanks also to Julie Cannon, Program Coordinator at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, who served in an assistant capacity and will be the responsible Coordinator next year. All South Carolina participants made this recruiting effort a success.

For more information about South Carolina AHEC's Family Medicine Residency Programs, visit www.scahec.net and select Graduate Medical Education. Copies of the CD are available by contacting Becky Seignious at seignior@musc.edu.

Institute Winners Have Fun Learning

The 2007 Health Careers Summer Institute was filled with loads of activities. In addition to the hands-on education sessions conducted by healthcare professionals, there were several competitions to help lighten the learning environment. Competitions were included to promote academic success, information sharing, and student achievement. Winners received plaques of recognition and gift certificates.

It was the guys against the girls in AHEC Feud, a new addition to the competitions. Prior to the Institute, attendees were asked to respond to questions like, "what are the healthiest fruits?" and "list medical schools?". Tacorey Campbell, Derrick Boggs and Steven Johnson were members of the winning team.

The Essay competition required the participants to compose a 250-word essay to support the theme

of the 2007 Summer Institute, "Promoting Diversity in Healthcare". Ramiz Hamid won for best essay (see *Institute article, p.12*). Special thanks to Shirley Floyd of Horry-Georgetown Technical College for judging the Essay competition.

SpellBound was a competition that rewarded the last person standing after correctly spelling a series of words often found on the Scholastic Aptitude Test. Errol Williams claimed the honors.

Always an Institute favorite, the annual Talent Show spotlighted the talents of several of the Institute attendees. Talents included rapping and singing. By votes of cheers and applause, Jemal Thomas was proclaimed the winner.

South Carolina AHEC congratulates the participants and winners of these competitions.

Student Recognized On Road to Becoming a Nurse

By Angel Clark, Health Careers Program Coordinator, Mid-Carolina AHEC



Ms. Nadira Gary, an active member of the Mid-Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program for the past two years, has been recognized as National Honor Roll student, a member of the National Society of High School

Scholars, a member of the National Technical Honor Society and listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students. In addition, she recently placed third in a state competition for Administrative Medical Assistants and completed an internship with the Westinghouse Savannah River Site where she received a MVP award. Ms. Gary is from New Ellenton in Aiken, SC and will attend USC-Aiken to study nursing.

Medical Student Inspired By Mission Trip to Romania

From an early age I had an interest in medicine. I am unaware of the circumstances that lit the initial spark-- perhaps it was the realization of how amazing the human body was or the ability of the medical field to use their knowledge to cure and heal that fascinated me. Whatever the reason, I knew that this was an interest I wanted to pursue and everything that I did was done to bring me closer to that goal. I gained valuable experience through shadowing and summer internships with Greenville AHEC (now Upstate AHEC) and I continued to volunteer and gain exposure throughout college.

Through those experiences, the health disparities present in our country became apparent and I saw medicine as a way to directly impact the lives of others through service and education.

This past June I had the opportunity to make a difference by participating in a medical missions trip to Romania sponsored by Medical Campus Outreach. It is my passion to work with the underserved and I saw this trip as my way of giving back the blessings

I have received. For two weeks, our team of medical students, nurses, pharmacists, and doctors ran two clinics in the Romanian countryside, and for many of the people this was the first time that they had seen a doctor. Although we were limited in the services we could provide, we were able to see 650 patients, providing many with much needed medication for

a year. My two weeks in Romania were truly life-changing and reinforced my reasons for entering the field. I learned the art of practicing medicine and how rewarding it can be. It was a humbling and enlightening experience to feel like you have made a difference in people's lives. As I begin my second year of medical school, I will always remember my experiences this past summer. Regardless of the specialty I choose, medical mission trips will continue to be a large part of my career.

*- Tamara Johnson, Second Year Medical Student
Medical University of South Carolina*



Tamra Johnson, second from left, with members of the medical mission team and a local Romanian patient.

Tamara was born in Greenville, SC and graduated from Southside High School's International Baccalaureate Program in 1999. She joined the South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program during her sophomore year in high school and continued to be active in the program through her freshman year

in college. Tamara attended Duke University and graduated with a BA in Psychology in 2003. After graduation, she moved to Philadelphia where she worked in autism research at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2006, Tamara was accepted into the Medical University of South Carolina and moved to Charleston to attend.

Students Explore Careers through Partnership with Roper Day Hospital

By Tavy Smalls, HCP Coordinator, Lowcountry AHEC

Lowcountry AHEC's Health Careers Program has succeeded once again this summer in collaborating with health care facilities in its 12-county region to provide internships for students. The Health Careers Internship Program is designed to allow students the opportunity to work in a healthcare environment for five weeks.

Lowcountry AHEC collaborated with Roper Day Hospital in Moncks Corner so that Ronald Nelson, a graduate of Cross High School, and Brittany Greene, a senior at Berkeley High School, would be able to get a first-hand experience working in healthcare careers.



After participating in the Internship, Brittany and Ronald now realize that the healthcare industry is a very diverse mixture of specialties and their experience allowed them to gain knowledge of the many opportunities available in health care.

Brittany was interested in exploring surgery, emergency medicine, physical therapy and radiology. She expressed thanks that Roper Day Hospital had partnered with Berkeley County schools and Lowcountry AHEC to provide this training. Brittany hopes "more students will take advantage of this in the future", because she has explored areas she had never previously considered as career options.



Ronald especially appreciated the mentoring the health professionals provided. They volunteered school information, shared career options, and answered questions concerning health courses and majors. Ronald thoroughly enjoys chemistry, so he found his niche area in the test laboratory.

Both students took notice of the professional teamwork by the staff in helping patients with their problems and their respect for and assistance of each other. The Internship provided each with new reasons to pursue careers in the healthcare field. Brittany plans to attend Clemson University and Ronald is a freshman at Winthrop University.

Scholars Steered Toward Nursing, Dentistry

By Cindy Abole, MUSC Catalyst

Some of South Carolina's brightest minority undergraduates spent the first week of June exploring careers in nursing and dentistry, and gaining experiences from shadowing as part of the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC) Future Health Professionals Academy.

The program, which featured 11 undergraduate students representing institutions throughout South Carolina, is divided into nursing and dental tracks and offers underrepresented student-participants an opportunity to evaluate each profession. Participants also met faculty and interacted with professionals, academic staff and current students. They enhanced their knowledge while building skills in areas of critical thinking, communications and time management.

"This was a great opportunity for S.C. AHEC and other support institutions to be involved," said Angelica Christie, director, S.C. AHEC Health Careers Program. "We're very happy to collaborate with MUSC in this project. This year's participants have been the best group of kids since the program's inception. We've developed a program that opens the doors to a lot of opportunities not commonly available for students who are interested in healthcare careers. We hope it has been helpful."

The program was created to support undergraduates, especially minority and disadvantaged students, who are interested in pursuing health care careers. The five-day academy offered participants a variety of interactive activities to introduce them to the health care professions, especially nursing and dental medicine, while enhancing their academic needs, personal growth and development.

"We needed to establish a program like the academy that could attract potential students into the health professions," said Gayenell S. Magwood, Ph.D., R.N., College of Nursing. She is a health disparities and diabetes education specialist based in the College of Nursing. This is the fourth year that the nursing professor has collaborated with this summer program.

"We provided them with an intense experience that introduced a structured mentoring process

that helped them meet nursing and dental faculty and staff, plus exposed them to a sampling of the respective curriculums," Magwood said. "As an institution, our goal is to help support the vision that this academy offers and provide students with the resources and training to help them move forward in their plans."

The academy experience also provided an opportunity for students to network with nursing or dental faculty while offering them insight into each program's curriculum and the application process. Participants completed about 64 hours of didactic and clinical seminars and training throughout the week. Academy faculty led a variety of classes from academic skills building, resources management, gross anatomy and understanding of the disease process. Most importantly, participants were paired with working professionals in the hospital, clinics and community as part of an intense mentoring experience.

"We worked with a dynamic group of students," said Gwendolyn Brown, R.Ph., DMD, director of diversity in the College of Dental Medicine and a member of the college's admissions committee. "Participating in this year's program helped cement their desire to pursue dentistry as a career. We're excited about this and the possibilities it brings to help increase the number of underrepresented minorities in our state. Because of this program, we're slowly reaching our goal."

Students applied to the program in late April and completed a rigorous application process. Candidates needed to be a South Carolina resident, possess a 3.0 or higher GPA, be currently enrolled or accepted in an accredited institution, and committed to pursuing either a nursing or pre-dental medicine degrees. Students were asked to present a copy of their official school transcripts, immunization documentation and two letters of recommendation from either a teacher, advisor or community representative.

"It's important for MUSC to be a leader in responding to the health care needs of South Carolina residents," Magwood said. "We should provide the next generation of nurses and dentists with the right resources and reliable tools to be successful in their careers. MUSC College of Nursing has been an active participant with a network of statewide educators at colleges and institutions, in addition to professional nurses

who are committed to increasing and preparing tomorrow's nursing workforce."

"We've developed a program that opens the doors to a lot of opportunities not commonly available for students who are interested in healthcare careers."

A highlight of the program was the interdisciplinary poster projects that introduced students to a variety of health care topics such as cancer, obesity, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, health disparities and other health issues. Students collaborated to gather and

organize research, create a poster and present their findings to fellow students and guest faculty on the final day.

"With the focus on interdisciplinary education, students were able to see how other health professions impact health care," said Monica Ward-Murray, R.N., Ed.D., South Carolina State University. "This is especially true with diseases like diabetes and its effect on a patient's nursing and dental care. Once again, it's great to have both professions represented at the table."

Christie was among several coordinators, staff and other academy facilitators who contributed to this year's program. Facilitators included Magwood; Brown; Ward-Murray; Charlene Pope, Ph.D., R.N., College of Nursing; Shannon Bright Smith, R.N., Center for Clinical Effectiveness, MUSC Medical Center; Val Ship, R.N., Ph.D., Veteran's Affairs; Pam Maczyk, PharmD, College of Pharmacy; Rick Albenesius, DMD, College of Dental Medicine; Shannon Richards-Slaughter, Ph.D., Center for Academic Excellence; Marcia Reinhardt and Charles Brown, MUSC Library; Jill Stevens and Monica Struble, MUSC Enrollment Services; Jennifer Larke, College of Dental Medicine; and Paula Jones, S.C. AHEC Health Careers Program.

2007 Future Health Professionals: Dalynn Blair, Megan Manigault, NeKosha Flanningan, Desiree Collenton, Danielle Harris, Briana McCoy, Julie Douangchak, Samar Parks, Jessica Cook, Joanne Dietrich, Danielle Gill, Joani Dunmeyer, Lucy Singleton, Felicia McNeil, and Shannon Wright.

For information, visit <http://www.scahec.net>.

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Summer Institute Student Decides Early to Become Healthcare Professional

The South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Summer Institute is a four-day summer camp that focuses on introducing concepts of healthcare to students. This year, it was held at the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Math from June 12 – 15, 2007. Practitioners from various areas of healthcare came from all over the state to speak to us about their respective fields. Even though they all spoke on different topics, there were similarities between all of their messages. They all seemed to be passionate about their area and really liked caring for people. They told us that in order to succeed in the healthcare field, we will have to work extremely hard and love what we are doing. Many of the sessions were interactive, and all the students were active participants. There was so much to learn that there was never a dull moment.

We gained a lot of knowledge and learned some important lessons at the Summer Institute, which we will use for the rest of our lives. We came to understand the importance of being able to deal with people of different cultures, focused on working together despite differences, discovered how to overcome adversities and achieve our goals. We saw the benefits of disease prevention over treatment, and learned how to make healthy choices that will make a noticeable impact later in our lives. We also got the opportunity to work in small groups and explore specific healthcare occupations in more depth. A few of our options were nursing, surgical technology, dental medicine, chiropractic medicine, and public health. The opportunity to receive cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid certifications was also available for those who wished to do so. All the teachers were well qualified and had experience in the topic they were addressing, and they tried to make sure that everyone understood what they were talking about.

There were also numerous other activities going on after sessions. We had a cook-in due to bad weather, a college fair, and watched a movie. Academic competitions and games were held one night. There were SpellBound, AHEC Feud, an essay competition, and talent show. It was all very educational and enjoyable for everyone. We were also honored by the presence of Dr. Sharon Allison-Otney author of the novel All I Ever Did Was Love a Man. She held a discussion class about her book and also gave autographed copies to everyone.

The Leadership Banquet was held on the last night, and it was the closing ceremony for the Summer Institute. The Governor's School cafeteria staff really worked hard to prepare this formal event. At the banquet, prizes were given out and winners of the competitions were announced. Many distinguished guests were present and they each made some comments. Dr. Allison-Otney was the featured speaker at the Banquet. She encouraged us to be eagles and soar to reach our goals instead of being chickens who will scratch their way through life. It was a great way to close out the Summer Institute.

I had a lot of good times at the Institute, and I learned a lot. I also picked up practical skills that will be useful to me later in life. I learned the importance of teamwork, knowledge, and confidence, and also realized that a health career will be perfect for me. The AHEC Summer Institute was an amazing experience that I will never forget.

By: Ramiz Amid, Health Careers Academy Scholar, Lowcountry AHEC

Ramiz Hamid is the 2007 Summer Institute Essay Competition winner and a gifted 13-year old rising 10th grade student at Beaufort High School in Beaufort, SC.



View Dr. Sharon Allison-Otney's inspirational presentation to the participants of the 2007 Health Careers Summer Institute at www.scahec.net.

Littlejohn is Student of the Year

The South Carolina AHEC Student of the Year program annually recognizes the academic success, personal development and humanitarian efforts of members of the regional AHEC Health Careers Programs. Each application was reviewed by an independent committee and ranked based upon components that included grade point average, extra-curricular activity involvement, community service and an essay detailing their commitment to the pursuit of a health career.

Lauren Littlejohn of Upstate AHEC and Janetta Pinckney of Lowcountry AHEC were this year's regional award winners and were recommended for the South Carolina AHEC Student of the Year title. Both Lauren and Janetta were recognized at the Summer Institute Leadership Banquet on Thursday, June 4, 2007.

The state title, South Carolina AHEC Student of the Year,

was then awarded to Lauren Littlejohn who is a senior at Spartanburg High School. To support her academic achievement, Lauren received a laptop computer.

College Book Awards were also presented to a Health Careers Program member from each regional AHEC. This award is a small scholarship that is funded by participant application fees.

South Carolina AHEC recognizes the 2007 Health Careers Book Award recipients:

- Briana McCoy of Mid-Carolina AHEC will attend Midlands Technical College.
- Natalie Robinson of Pee Dee AHEC will attend Florence-Darlington Technical College.
- Derek Boggs of Lowcountry AHEC will attend Greenville Technical College.
- Tacorey Campbell of Upstate AHEC will attend Lander University.

Advocacy for Health Career Exploration Begins with Teachers

The South Carolina AHEC Teach the Teacher Academy was developed to promote advocacy for health career exploration among a cross section of educators in South Carolina. Over 130 applicants vied for a slot in the Academy which was offered during the months of June and August 2007. Each South Carolina AHEC region hosted an Academy session and the exceptional interest resulted in the offering of a fifth session during the month of August.

Eighty-seven school teachers, counselors, administrators and career specialists successfully completed the 18-hour curriculum.



"I thoroughly enjoyed the Teach the Teacher Academy! I learned more about the healthcare industry than I could have imagined," stated a participant.

The Academy was designed as a two-day workshop by Sara Burton, RN, and AHEC representatives who utilized a wide variety of resources and years of classroom and practical healthcare experience. Financial support for the development and implementation of the Academy was provided by grant funding from The Duke Endowment.

stated, "We have done a really good thing for South Carolina, its teachers and students."

Components of the Academy included: Shadowing a variety of healthcare providers in area health care settings; Providing basic information regarding requirements for healthcare careers, prerequisites for college, personality traits needed, employment areas, education and training requirements, duties of specialty areas and job outlooks; and Tips on interaction with other subject matter teachers.

Upon completion of the Academy, each participant created a lesson plan which infused the exploration of a health profession into the curriculum of their subject specialty. These lesson plans are slated to be tested by the Academy participants during the Fall semester of 2008. Academy participants received 18 renewal points towards recertification, and are eligible to receive a stipend of up to \$150.

The South Carolina AHEC collaborated with the Carolinas Coalitions for Health Careers in the development of the Academy. Additional collaborators included Spartanburg Regional Hospital, Grand Strand Memorial Hospital, Palmetto Baptist Health Columbia, Sisters of Charity Providence Hospital, Colleton Medical Center, and R. D. Anderson Applied Technology Center who provided shadowing sites and classroom space.

"I was so glad to be a part of this project," Burton

NEUROBLAST

Answer the following questions about the field of dental medicine, and identify the answers in the word find below. Answers can be found at www.scahec.net

1. Term that refers to the health of the mouth.
2. A part of the daily routine of good dental health (not brushing).
3. The health professional who aids dentists in the delivery of oral healthcare.
4. A picture taken of bone and tissue below the skin's surface using electromagnet radiation.
5. The doctor of dental medicine who specializes in straightening teeth.
6. The only South Carolina college which provides training in Dental Medicine.
7. Doctor of Dental Surgery (abbreviation).
8. The specialty area of dental medicine which performs root canal therapy.
9. The licensed oral health professional that assists in the examination and treatment of patients.
10. The colleges in South Carolina offer training in Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting.
11. Doctor of Dental Medicine (abbreviation).
12. Dentists who specialize in the treatment of diseases of the mouth.
13. Document required to practice dental medicine in the U.S.
14. Specialty of dental medicine that treats the gums and bones that support the teeth.
15. An instrument used by dentists and dental hygienists to help in viewing areas of the mouth and teeth.
16. What does D.A.T. stand for?
17. C.D.A. is the abbreviation of what dental professional?
18. A dental technique used to whiten the teeth.
19. An oral health habit strongly recommended by dental professionals to be completed at least two times each day.



Jones' Work Spans 21 Years

Best wishes to Judy H. Jones, Health Careers Program Coordinator, on her retirement from Pee Dee AHEC on July 25, 2007. Judy served as their Coordinator since the inception of the program in 1986. Health Career students from the Pee Dee region recognized Ms. Jones for her years of dedication and commitment at the Summer Institute recognition program in June.

South Carolina AHEC thanks Ms. Jones (pictured in the middle) for her service to the students of South Carolina.



Florence Agencies Collaborate on Response Planning

The Pee Dee AHEC Disaster Preparedness and Response Training (DPRT) Network collaborated with the Florence City Fire Department and Florence County EMS to conduct joint training exercises among the two emergency response units. The training exercises were held over three dates in June in order to reach all the members of the Florence EMS squads and fire stations.

An abandoned building located in Florence was set up for different scenarios including a collapsed building, an explosion, and a chemical spill. Efforts were made to conduct the exercises as close to a real life emergency situation as possible. "Live victims" for the exercises were provided by Pee Dee AHEC's Health Careers Scholar Program. These high school student participants were given scenarios to act out as injured victims.

Prior to the exercises, DPRT Coordinator, Kimberly Fine, and DPRT Trainer, Teddy Griffith, provided education to Captain David Exum's staff at the Florence County EMS. Training sessions included Bioterrorism 101 and Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI) – START Triage. They also provided training for Captain Larry Gore's team at the Florence City Fire Department in the area of MCI – START Triage.

After the completion of these training sessions, Kimberly Fine met with Captain David Exum

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Disaster Preparedness Expert Joins Training Team

Chris "C.J." Johnson is the newest member of the South Carolina AHEC team. As the Disaster Preparedness Training Manager, he develops and trains healthcare organizations across the state in the proper Decontamination procedures. C.J. also wears several other related hats including the assistant chief/training officer for the Charleston County Volunteer Rescue Squad and the lead health technician on the South Carolina Disaster Medical Assistance Team.

C.J. was born and raised in Oregon. He served in the U.S. Navy and Navy Reserve as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate and a Command Career Counselor. C.J. received numerous service awards including a Navy Unit Commendation, Navy Meritorious Unit Citation and National Defense Medal. In addition, he is a graduate of the Medical University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Health Sciences degree.

Prior to coming to South Carolina AHEC, C.J. served as a bioterrorism instructor for Lowcountry AHEC, was the emergency preparedness

coordinator for Trident Health System, served as a rescue squad officer for the South Carolina Emergency Response Task Force and was an adjunct instructor at the South Carolina Fire Academy. He is certified as a hazardous materials technician, weapons of mass destruction specialist, rescue SCUBA diver, and a mass decontamination and patient

management instructor. In addition, C.J. is a member of the National Council on Readiness and Preparedness, National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, National Association for Search and Rescue and serves as the state coordinator for the National EMS Memorial Service.

C.J. has been married to Susie since 1999, and together they have nine children and two grandchildren.



C.J. Johnson (middle) helps two hospital personnel don personal protective gear.

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and Captain Larry Gore to plan the exercise events. Material support in the form of triage tags, treatment area tarps and identification vests were provided by the Pee Dee AHEC DPRT Network. Both the Florence County EMS and Florence City Fire Department utilized equipment as well as their MCI – START Triage training skills acquired through the DPRT Network training during the exercises. Kimberly Fine even served as a planned distraction during each scenario by posing as a newspaper reporter, a volunteer nurse, and an irate mother of one of the victims. She provided realistic obstacles that the response team would potentially encounter in an actual emergency.

Through these collaborative efforts, Pee Dee AHEC assisted Florence County EMS and Florence City Fire Department in recognizing the strengths and

weaknesses in their response plans. These two emergency response units are planning to conduct more joint training exercises over the next year to strengthen their ability to respond to disasters in Florence County and the surrounding areas.

Special thanks to the Florence County EMS and Florence City Fire Department for their teamwork. Additional thanks to the Pee Dee AHEC Health Careers Program Coordinator, Judy Jones, for helping to recruit the “live victims” for these training exercises. Participants included 10th grade students from area schools: Chelsea Taylor and Broddrick Jones from West Florence High School; and Kyle Bruce and Kaleb Carter from Wilson High School.

For more information about the work being done in the Pee Dee by the DPRT Network, visit: www.peedeeahec.net.

DPRT Coordinator Draws on ER Experience

After twelve years as an AHEC Continuing Education Coordinator, Pam Bartley switched gears last fall to coordinate the Disaster Preparedness and Response Training (DPRT) grant for Mid-Carolina AHEC. Pam has worked as an ER Nurse for over twenty years and has been elected the President of the South Carolina’s Emergency Nurses Association (ENA). All of her training in responding to emergency situations has enabled Pam to help prepare others through DPRT programs. Pam had also been personally affected by the events of September 11, 2001, when, on that day her flight to attend the national ENA Conference in Orlando was diverted because of the disaster.

Upon assuming her new position, Pam consulted with her AHEC and ENA contacts and realized that hospitals had decontamination tents and personal protective equipment, but did not necessarily know how to use the equipment. They had chosen disaster teams and decontamination teams, but many employees had not been trained, and most teams consisted of the ER staff. Pam’s first step was seeing what equipment the hospitals had, and then providing training using that equipment. She focused on two rural counties, preparing one for a day-long training exercise lead by Dr. Ralph Shealy and sending staff from the other hospital to the national training center in Anniston, Alabama. Pam then made sure that each of the 11 counties in the

Mid-Carolina AHEC region received training, with at least three sessions in each county.

Pam also utilized her healthcare connections to train other regional health care providers. Martha Bursinger, a nurse dual-certified as a Long Term Care Administrator and a Residential Care Administrator, helped her develop a course for Long Term Care Administrators. To make the training competency-based, Pam added scenarios including a bomb threat where residents would have to be evacuated, an extended power outage where the facility has to figure out how to obtain additional supplies, and an infectious disease outbreak where the facility would have to quarantine or shelter-in place.

Additionally, Pam worked with the Past-President of the SC School Nurses Association, Kim McPherson, to develop a comprehensive course for school nurses focusing on the safe evacuation of students and the use of START Triage procedures.

In 2006-07, Pam trained over 1300 healthcare providers in her region to better prepare for a disaster. She is now focusing on preparing other rural counties for training in the Hospital Emergency Response Training course led by Dr. Shealy. In addition she and Martha are speaking at the NC/ SC Residential Care Administrators conference in October. Pam loves the opportunities AHEC offer and thanks her Center Director, Cheri Plyler, and the Grant Administrator, Beth Kennedy, for giving her the opportunity to participate in this grant!

AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Program in New Location

After 32 years in the same building, the AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Training Program has relocated to a new site at the Oglesby Center on East Greenville Street in Anderson, SC. Renovation of three office suites into a new residency teaching facility was completed on June 18, 2007. The new office complex covers over 25,000 sq. ft. plus two additional classroom/conference areas.

The previous space was comprised of three separate offices, but now everyone is in the same location. The faculty, residents, and staff have positively embraced the new \$1.2 million facility.

"Being able to teach superb residents in an exceptional teaching facility has created



a sense of excitement among all our residency staff" said Dr. Stoney Abercrombie, Program Director.

A capital campaign, *The Campaign for Medical Education Excellence*, is underway to raise \$450,000 by Labor Day to designate a wing of the building as the Jimmie Halford Wing, and a classroom as the Jay Buehler Classroom, in honor of the first two directors of the Residency

Program. The present faculty kicked off the campaign with an initial contribution of \$150,000.

You can find AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Program at 2000 East Greenville Street, Suite 3600, Anderson, SC 29621.

Mid-Carolina AHEC Moves into Their Own Space

By Jeff Cauthen, HPS Coordinator, Mid-Carolina AHEC

The staff of Mid-Carolina AHEC has an interesting story to tell on "what we did over the summer." They picked up all their belongings—professional and some personal—and moved across Lancaster to their new home. After 25 years of sharing, and steadily outgrowing space with a local medical practice, Mid-Carolina AHEC now has their own facility to help carry out their mission of improving the quality and accessibility of healthcare for the communities in their 11 county region of South Carolina.



The new building was renovated so that employees now have individual offices with a large open area in the center of the building for conducting day-to-day business. The building contains a comfortable conference room and a training room, capable of seating 30 students, equipped with state of the art

accessories to enhance the training process. This in-house capability will now make it easier to conduct Mid-Carolina AHEC's Continuing Education programs in a customer-friendly environment.

Moving is never lots of fun, but in this case it has been worth the effort. Located at 1824 Highway 9 By-Pass West in Lancaster, Mid-Carolina AHEC is open for business in its new home. The staff of Mid-Carolina AHEC agrees

that they are enthusiastic about the welcome change. Drop by their new offices and find out for yourself!

Mid-Carolina AHEC can also be found online at www.midcarolinaahec.org.

Lowcountry AHEC Moves to Walterboro

The Lowcountry Area Health Education Center moved from Varnville, SC into its new office space in Walterboro, SC on April 2, 2007. The move brings Lowcountry AHEC back to Walterboro, which is where it was first incorporated in 1977. Walterboro is central to Lowcountry AHEC's 12-county service area and allows easy access for regional partners and collaborators. The new office space features a state of the art 900 square-foot classroom for use with continuing education programs, health professions student group meetings, board meetings, and health careers program student activities. Lowcountry AHEC is excited about their new offices and invites all to stop by to take a look and say hello.

Lowcountry AHEC can also be found at www.lcahec.com.



Lowcountry AHEC Adds New Talent

Emily Edwards, RN, BSN, Continuing Education Coordinator

Emily Edwards joined the Lowcountry AHEC team on May 14, 2007 as a Continuing Education Program Coordinator. In this role, she assesses continuing education needs, plans appropriate programs based on needs, and implements those programs. She previously worked as a pediatric nurse for 12 years in various healthcare settings. Emily, her husband and son moved from Anderson, South Carolina to the Lowcountry in 2003.



Luann Reitz, Continuing Education Program Assistant

Luann Reitz joined the Lowcountry AHEC team on July 9, 2007. She previously



worked with the Opportunities Scholars Program at the University of South Carolina-Beaufort, which provides first generation college students additional resources for success. She and her husband moved from Meadville, Pennsylvania to the Lowcountry in September of 2005. Luann serves as the Continuing Education Program Assistant for Lowcountry AHEC. In this role, she assists the Continuing Education Coordinators in all areas of program logistics including, planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Kelly Wynn, Administrative & Data Management Assistant

Kelly Wynn began working at Lowcountry AHEC in June 2007. Her duties include receptionist, data management of the South Carolina AHEC database, assisting CE, HPS and HCP coordinators and other job related duties. Previously, Kelly worked at Edisto Pediatrics as a medical office specialist. She, her husband, and their two children moved to South Carolina in 2004 from Florida.



Upstate AHEC Adds New Team Members

Tenisha Hudson, shown on the left, joined our organization in late Spring of 2007 as an Administrative Assistant and in early August, she moved into the Data Management Specialist role. Tenisha recently received an Associates Degree in Public Service from Greenville Technical College with a specialty in Human Services. She is currently working on her Bachelors in Social Work at Limestone College.

Nancie Stover, shown on the right, is Upstate AHEC's new Health Professions Student Coordinator for Greenville, Spartanburg, Laurens, Greenwood, Saluda, Edgefield, McCormick and Abbeville Counties. Nancie received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Clemson University and is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Public Health from the University of South Carolina.



On August 14, Claudia Alvarado, not pictured, became an Administrative Assistant with Upstate AHEC. Prior to joining the AHEC team, Claudia was a Bilingual Human Resource Assistant with Span-America. She speaks fluent Spanish and will be a great addition to the team.

For additional information about Upstate AHEC, visit www.upstateahec.org.

MNA Log-In Becomes NetID

If you currently have access to Online Journal and MD Consult, you need to update your log-in information to ensure uninterrupted access.

All persons in South Carolina who are using the services available through the South Carolina AHEC Information Services (<http://ahec.library.musc.edu>) have MUSC Network Accounts (MNA). The change from MNA accounts to NetID requires all users to change their password online to become NetID account holders.

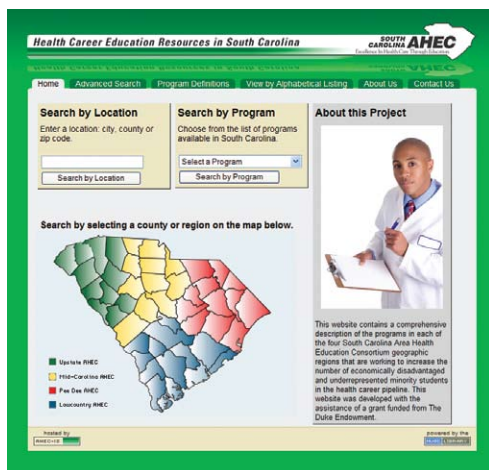
The following steps must be taken to meet this requirement:

- Go to <http://netid.musc.edu> using your current MNA login and password
- Accept the Security and Confidentiality Agreement
- Create a new password using the guidelines shown

In addition, all NetID accounts have a time limit so you will be contacted in the future to verify your continued need for an account.

New users of the South Carolina AHEC Information Services will need to have NetID accounts established for them by Charles Brown, AHEC Librarian/Registration Authority, because new accounts can only be created on the MUSC campus.

Act now to keep your access! A connection to <http://netid.musc.edu> is on the South Carolina AHEC Information Services webpage for your use.



The Health Career Education Resources in South Carolina website is an electronic database that contains information about agencies and organizations that support the preparation of minorities and underserved residents of South Carolina who are interested in exploring or pursuing professions of health care. The website is made possible through the support of The Duke Endowment. Access the HCER website at <http://ahec.library.musc.edu/hcer>.



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CALL FOR ARTICLES:

The editorial staff of "South Carolina AHEConnects" welcomes the submission of articles, success stories and upcoming events for the Winter Edition.

Please forward information, articles and photos to Ragan DuBose-Morris at duboser@musc.edu. The deadline for submissions is November 1, 2007.